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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT: Recruitment of Personnel for the East German
National Army

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1. The East German Government asked Roman Chwalek, Minister of Labor, to make available all workers that can be spared for the National Army to be formed in Eastern Germany. This decree involves workers of those age classes which would be subject to the draft. Chwalek ordered the labor offices of the zone to give the Volkspolizei (VP) every support in obtaining all the recruits required by it. All nationalized plants in Eastern Germany are being checked to determine whether they are in a position to release labor for the National Army. A very large staff of commissioners is charged with the execution of this mission.
2. SED functionaries meeting at Gotha agreed that the recruiting campaign for the National Army had met with no success so far. They suggested that it would be advisable to assign to the industrial enterprises of the zone quotas of recruits for the National Army in proportion to their total work force.

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